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Progress of Construction on Ying-t'an - Amoy Railroad

Photography of 21 November confirms that tracklaying is under way on the northern section of the Ying-t'an - Amoy railroad. 1/ The photography shows track in place to a point about 25 miles southeast of Ying-t'an, the junction point with the main Hangchow-Nanchang rail line.

Additional information has recently become available which indicates an increased tempo of construction on this project. Eight [redacted] military engineering divisions and large numbers of unskilled laborers are 25X1 currently working on the Ying-t'an - Yungan section of the rail line.

The Chinese Minister of Railways announced the intention to complete the line ahead of schedule and on 30 October, it was stated that the railroad would be extended 185 miles in 1956 to reach Yungan, a town on the Sha River, between 125 and 150 miles northwest of Amoy. This announcement implied that upwards of 90 miles of tracklaying would be completed during 1955, and the photography of 21 November indicates that construction is proceeding satisfactorily.

The present status of tracklaying, the large number of experienced construction units assigned to the line, and the announced intention to complete the railroad ahead of schedule, strongly suggest that construction as far as Yungan could be completed as early as June 1956 and that the Communists have the capability to complete the line to Amoy in late 1956.

25X1

Source: [redacted]

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